

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00

NSC-05 BIB-01 /088 R

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EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

NSC:MHIGGINS

S/S: LCJOHNSTONE

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P R 232251Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 121552

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: UK SPEAKING NOTE ON AIR MANPOWER

1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF UK SPEAKING NOTE ON AIR MANPOWER
IN THE COMMON CEILING WHICH WAS PASSED TO ACDA ON MAY 23,
BY UK EMBOFF CHRISTOPHER MAKINS. ACDA OFFICER TOLD MAKINS
THAT WE WOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO POINTS IN
SPEAKING NOTE.

2. BEGIN TEXT. WE WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE
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IDEA THAT ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF OPTION III AND OF AN

OFFER TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER MIGHT PROCEED SIMULTANEOUSLY AND THAT IT WOULD THEN BE FOR THE ALLIANCE TO DECIDE WHETHER THE OFFER TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING SHOULD BE MADE SEPARATELY OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH OPTION III.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT IT MAKES GOOD SENSE FOR THE ALLIANCE TO COMPLETE ITS STUDY OF THE IDEA OF A COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING, AND THUS BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE AN OFFER ON THESE LINES EITHER BEFORE OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH OPTION III. IN OUR VIEW AN OFFER TO INCLUDE MANPOWER IN A COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING SET AT ABOUT 900,000 MEN WOULD BE A FURTHER STEP TOWARDS ROUNDING OUT THE ALLIED POSITION AND COULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE PRESENTATIONAL VALUE. THERE IS THE FURTHER POINT THAT AS THE DISCUSSION ON DATA AND DEFINITION GETS UNDER WAY IN VIENNA THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES COULD REVERT TO THE SO-CALLED ANOMALIES IN THE ALLIED DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES AND PRESS FOR THE EXCLUSION OF A LARGER NUMBER OF FORCES THAN CURRENTLY ENVISAGED IN THE ALLIED ILLUSTRATIVE OFFER. IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES THE ALLIES COULD THINK IT INADVISABLE TO ENTER IN TO ANY COMMITMENT TO REDEFINE GROUND FORCES AND PROPOSE INSTEAD A COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING TO COVER BOTH GROUND AND AIR FORCES.

4. WE REALIZE THAT THE REDEFINITIONS PROBLEM WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE RESOLVED IF APPROXIMATE PARITY IN GROUND FORCES WERE TO BE MAINTAINED WITHIN A COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING. THIS WOULD BE ONE OF THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHICH THE ALLIANCE WOULD HAVE TO EXAMINE CAREFULLY BEFORE DECIDING TO MAKE AN OFFER TO INCLUDE AIR FORCE MANPOWER. IN OUR VIEW THE REQUIREMENT FOR SUCH A STUDY IS ALL THE GREATER AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE CURRENT DISCUSSION IN DEFINITIONS AND DATA IN VIENNA.

5. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS THE US GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE ON THE SUBJECT. INGERSOLL

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